

**Remarks**

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Claims 1-3 have been allowed. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 4-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

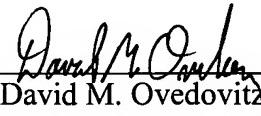
In order to expedite prosecution of the application, claims 4-6 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. As a result, only allowed claims 1-3 remain pending.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Tomotaka YAGI et al.

By:

  
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